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GEOGRAPHICAL LITERATURE AND MAPS

(INCLUDING ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY)

BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES

(The size of books is given in inches to the nearest half inch.)

AMERICA

The Climate of Ohio. By J. Warren Smith. *Bull. 235. Ohio Agric. Experiment Station*, Wooster, O., 1912. Pp. 185–209.

This is a short report, consisting of five pages of text, nine tables and fourteen charts. These charts show the mean annual temperatures, dates of killing frosts, average number of days in the crop-growing season, mean annual and seasonal precipitation, mean annual snowfall, and monthly distribution of precipitation. There are also given curves showing the mean annual temperatures for Ohio for each year from 1883 to 1910, and the mean annual precipitation from 1854 to 1910. The *Bulletin* gives, in compact form, the essential climatic characteristics of the State.

R. DeC. Ward.

Geology and Ore Deposits of the Butte District, Montana. By Walter Harvey Weed. 262 pp. Maps, ills. *Prof. Paper* 74, *U. S. Geol. Surv.* 1912.

Apart from its technical value, this Professional Paper contains valuable data of geographic interest on the central tract of the mountainous portion of the State of Montana. This area is partly represented on the geological map shown on Plate I.

A résumé of the physiography of the Butte district precedes its detailed geological review. The formation of the veins is ascribed to the hydrothermal alteration of the rock by metasomatic replacement which also contributed to the mineralization of the wall-rock to a slight degree. As to the source of the copper and the other metals of the quartz-pyrite veins, it is believed, although the evidence is not conclusive, that they are derived from emanations originating in a deep-seated magma. Mineralization is also shown to have been influenced by the process of secondary enrichment.

The author arrives at the conclusion that the output of the district will remain constant for some years to come and will then gradually decline. It is, of course, possible that improved methods of treatment will make pay ore of what is now called waste. The zinc ores also promise to be of great value and to add both to the material wealth and the productive period of the district. The question of ore reserves draws attention to the ephemeral life of all mining communities depending on the yield of their subsoil for their existence as geographic entities.

The main criticism of this work is to be directed against the publishers. We refer to the delay involved in the publication of Mr. Weed's results. The litigation which was in progress at the site of the mines described, ought under no circumstance to have been the cause of the temporary shelving of data of scientific and economic value.

Leon Dominian.

Alberta. An Account of Its Wealth and Progress. By Leo Thwaite. Porter's Progress of Nations. 250 pp. Maps, ills. George Routledge & Sons, Ltd., London. 1912. 50 cents. 8 x 5.

This Canadian Province, which has been receiving so much attention as a new agricultural land and an outlet for our own population is here attractively described. The author sketches briefly the history, constitution, and government of the province; more fully, its physical characteristics, topography, resources,